

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 10416 231712Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ARA-10 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 ACDA-07
DODE-00 /090 W
-----019967 232258Z /73

R 231650Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1475
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 10416

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AO, BE, CU
SUBJECT: ANGOLA: BELGIAN CHARGE REPORTS ANGOLAN DESIRE FOR
RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN ANGOLA

REF: BRUSSELS 7456

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY'S SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS OFFICER (VAN BRUSSELEN) PROVIDED US AUGUST 22 WITH FOLLOWING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM BELGIAN CHARGE IN LUANDA (LECOMTE) WHO IS CURRENTLY ON LEAVE IN BELGIUM. INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTS BELGIAN CHARGE'S LAST MAJOR REPORT FROM LUANDA (REFTEL).
2. ACCORDING BELGIAN CHARGE, ANGOLANS NOW APPEAR DESIROUS OF OPENING RELATIONS WITH THIRD GROUP OF COUNTRIES DESCRIBED BY ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER DOS SANTOS (REFTEL), I.E. THOSE COUNTRIES, INCLUDING U.S. AND U.K., PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED AS FOES.
3. MORE SPECIFICALLY, BELGIAN CHARGE SAID ANGOLANS WOULD BE WILLING TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. PROVIDING THAT FOLLOWING TWO CONDITIONS ARE MET: (A) THAT U.S. ACCEPTS CUBAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 10416 231712Z

PRESENCE IN ANGOLA; AND (B) THAT U.S. SHOWS THAT IT IS IN FAVOR OF NEW LOOK TOWARD AFRICA BY MAKING A "GESTURE". NATURE OF GESTURE WAS NOT SPECIFIED BUT OBVIOUSLY MEANT OFFER OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE.

4. BELGIAN CHARGE COMMENTED THAT IF CUBANS WERE WITHDRAWN ANGOLA WOULD CRUMBLE OR EXPLODE, AND THAT WITHOUT CUBAN OR SIMILAR HELP,

ANGOLAN REGIME WOULD BE UNABLE TO RUN COUNTRY. HE STATED THAT CUBANS ARE DISCREET AND DISCIPLINED, WITH NOTMANY CUBAN MILITARY VISIBLE IN LUANDA, BUT SAID CUBANS ARE NOT LIKED BY LOCAL PEOPLE. CUBAN DOCTORS IN PARTICULAR HAVE BAD REPUTATION. SAYING THEY ARE PROBABLY IN REALITY ONLY MEDICAL ORDERLIES, CHARGE CALLED THEM "BUTCHERS".

5. BELGIAN CHARGE EXPRESSED VIEW THATNETO SEES NEED FOR OPENING ANGOLA TO WESTERN COUNTRIES, AND IN PARTICULAR FOR HAVING CLOSE RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL. HE SAID THAT OF WESTERN EUROPEANS CURRENTLY SEEKING TO ESTABLISH ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, ITALIANS HAVE BEEN FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL AND FRENCH APPARENTLY ARE HAVING SOME SUCCESS IN PETROLEUM DEALS.

6. BELGIAN CHARGE SAID HE HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN LUANDA. HE SAID SOVIETAMBASSADOR CURRENTLY IS KEEPING VERY LOW PROFILE, AND THATTHERE ARE STRONG DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN SOVIETS AND CUBANS AS TO HOW COUNTRY SHOULD BE RUN.

7. DESCRIBING LIFE IN ANGOLA, BELGIAN CHARGE SAID MATERIAL SITUATION IS VERY DIFFICULT, WITH MEATVIRTUALLY UNAVAILABLE, AND RICE AVAILABLE ONLY WHEN IMPORTED FROM ABROAD. HE LIKENED SITUATION TO THAT OF ZAIRE IN 1964-66. CHAMBERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE10416
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770304-1141
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770835/aaaabcxh.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8c066956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRUSSELS 7456
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1521398
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA: BELGIAN CHARGE REPORTS ANGOLAN DESIRE FOR RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PDIP, AO, BE, CU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c066956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009